

We claim:

1. An isolated polypeptide of at least 50 amino acids comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 70% identical to a polypeptide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 5 or 6.
2. An isolated polypeptide of at least 30 amino acids comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 80% identical to a polypeptide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 5 or 6.
3. An isolated polypeptide of at least 20 amino acids comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 90% identical to a polypeptide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 5 or 6.
4. An isolated polypeptide of at least 10 amino acids comprising an amino acid sequence which is identical to a polypeptide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 5 or 6.
5. An isolated polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid which is at least 70% identical to the entire nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 10 or 11 or complement thereof.
6. An isolated polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of: the nucleic acid sequence corresponding to nucleotide 310 to 2562 of SEQ ID No. 1, the nucleic acid sequence corresponding to nucleotide 1 to 29 of SEQ ID No. 1, SEQ ID No. 2, SEQ ID No. 3, and the nucleic acid sequence corresponding to nucleotide 390 to 1284 of SEQ ID No. 4.
7. The isolated polypeptide of claim 5 or 6, comprising an amino acid sequence having an amino acid identity of at least about 70% with the entire amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 5 or SEQ ID No. 6.
8. The isolated polypeptide of any of claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 which is encoded by a mammalian nucleic acid sequence.

9. The isolated polypeptide of claim 8, which is encoded by a human nucleic acid sequence.

10. The isolated polypeptide of claim 5 or 6, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by the nucleic acid having an ATCC Deposit No. XXXXXX or ATCC Deposit No. XXXXXX.

11. The isolated polypeptide of claim 5 or 6, which has an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 5 or SEQ ID No. 6.

12. An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which is at least 70% identical to the entire nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 1 or 4 or complement thereof.

13. An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which is at least 80% identical to the entire nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 10 or 11 or complement thereof.

14. An isolated nucleic acid sequence which hybridizes under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of: the nucleic acid sequence corresponding to nucleotide 310 to 2562 of SEQ ID No. 1, the nucleic acid sequence corresponding to nucleotide 1 to 29 of SEQ ID No. 1, SEQ ID No. 2, SEQ ID No. 3, and the nucleic acid sequence corresponding to nucleotide 390 to 1284 of SEQ ID No. 4.

15. The isolated nucleic acid of claim 14, which is from a mammal.

16. The isolated nucleic acid of claim 15, which is from a human.

17. The isolated nucleic acid of claim 14, which is comprised of a nucleic acid fragment corresponding to an IL-1L1 gene insert of a vector having ATCC Deposit No. XXXXXX or XXXXXX.

18. An isolated nucleic acid comprising at least 100 consecutive nucleotides having a

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nucleotide sequence which is at least 75% identical to a nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 1, or 4 or a complement thereof, with the proviso that the nucleic acid is not selected from the group consisting of the EST sequences having GenBank Accession Nos. AI040890, AI469873, AA722902, AI167887, R70041, R70089, W08205, AI391145, W20594, AI684888.

19. An isolated nucleic acid comprising at least about 100 consecutive nucleotides, which nucleic acid hybridizes under stringent conditions to a nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID Nos: 1, or 4 or a complement thereof or to the nucleic acid having ATCC Designation No. XXXXXX or XXXXXX, provided that the nucleic acid is not a member selected from the group consisting of the EST sequences having GenBank Accession Nos. AI040890, AI469873, AA722902, AI167887, R70041, R70089, W08205, AI391145, W20594, AI684888.

20. An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which is at least about 75% identical to the entire nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 2.

21. An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence which is at least about 90% identical to the entire nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID No. 3.

22. An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID No. 12.

23. The isolated polypeptide of any of claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, wherein the polypeptide is a fusion polypeptide.

24. The isolated nucleic acid of any of claims 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21 or 22 further comprising a label.

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